

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A belted absorbent article comprising:
 - 2 an absorbent structure extending about a first longitudinal axis, said
 - 3 absorbent structure including a topsheet, a backsheet and an absorbent batt
 - 4 disposed between said topsheet and said backsheet, said absorbent structure having
 - 5 a transverse axis dividing the absorbent structure into a front panel terminating in
 - 6 a front end region and a rear panel terminating in a rear end region, said absorbent
 - 7 structure being delimited by opposed longitudinal edges and opposed transverse
 - 8 edges, and
 - 9 a pair of opposed belt halves attached to said absorbent structure at said
 - 10 rear end region of said rear panel, each of said belt halves being attached by a
 - 11 respective joint, each belt half extending about a longitudinal axis of the belt such
 - 12 that each belt half extends outwardly from a respective longitudinal edge of the
 - 13 absorbent structure,
 - 14 wherein each of said joints between each said belt half and said absorbent
 - 15 structure is designed such that when each said belt half is subjected to a tension
 - 16 force of 35 N acting along said longitudinal axis of the belt and said longitudinal
 - 17 axis of the belt creates an angle (α) to said transverse axis of said absorbent
 - 18 structure, the following minimum average release times (t) of each said belt half
 - 19 from said absorbent structure are attained:
 - 20 when $\alpha = 10^\circ$, $t \gg 720$ seconds;
 - 21 when $\alpha = 20^\circ$, $t \gg 330$ seconds;
 - 22 when $\alpha = 25^\circ$, $t \gg 240$ seconds;
 - 23 when $\alpha = 30^\circ$, $t \gg 180$ seconds; and
 - 24 when $\alpha = 40^\circ$, $t \gg 75$ seconds.

1 2. The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the following minimum
2 average release times (t) of each said belt half from said absorbent structure are
3 attained:

4 when $\alpha = 10^\circ$, t »740 seconds;
5 when $\alpha = 20^\circ$, t »340 seconds;
6 when $\alpha = 25^\circ$, t »245 seconds;
7 when $\alpha = 30^\circ$, t »190 seconds; and
8 when $\alpha = 40^\circ$, t »80 seconds.

1 3. The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the following minimum
2 average release times (t) of each said belt half from said absorbent structure are
3 attained:

4 when $\alpha = 10^\circ$, t »760 seconds;
5 when $\alpha = 20^\circ$, t »350 seconds;
6 when $\alpha = 25^\circ$, t »250 seconds;
7 when $\alpha = 30^\circ$, t »200 seconds; and
8 when $\alpha = 40^\circ$, t »85 seconds.

1 4. The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the following minimum
2 average release times (t) of each said belt half from said absorbent structure are
3 attained:

4 when $\alpha = 10^\circ$, t »780 seconds;
5 when $\alpha = 20^\circ$, t »360 seconds;
6 when $\alpha = 25^\circ$, t »255 seconds;
7 when $\alpha = 30^\circ$, t »210 seconds; and
8 when $\alpha = 40^\circ$, t »90 seconds.

1 5. The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein the following minimum
2 average release times (t) of each said belt half from said absorbent structure are
3 attained:

4 when $\alpha = 10^\circ$, t »800 seconds;
5 when $\alpha = 20^\circ$, t »370 seconds;
6 when $\alpha = 25^\circ$, t »260 seconds;
7 when $\alpha = 30^\circ$, t »220 seconds; and
8 when $\alpha = 40^\circ$, t »100 seconds.

1 6. The article as claimed in claim 1, wherein each said belt half is
2 attached to said absorbent structure at said rear end region between said topsheet
3 and said backsheet.

1 7. The article as claimed in claim 6, wherein each of said joints
2 between each said belt half and said rear end region comprises two spaced
3 substantially parallel lines of attachment between each said belt half and said
4 backsheet.

1 8. The article as claimed in claim 7, wherein said two spaced
2 substantially parallel lines of attachment are adhesive bond lines.

1 9. The article as claimed in claim 8, wherein said two spaced
2 substantially parallel lines of attachment at least partially delimit a non-attached
3 longitudinally extending region between each said belt half and said backsheet
4 within which region ends of elastic ribbons forming elasticised leg cuffs reside.

1 10. The article as claimed in claim 9, wherein each of said joints
2 between each said belt half and said rear end region further comprises a region of
3 attachment between said backsheet and each said belt half, said region of

4 attachment extending between said two spaced substantially parallel lines of
5 attachment over said elastic ribbons.

1 11. The article as claimed in claim 10, wherein each of said joints
2 between each said belt half and said rear end region further comprises at least one
3 region of bonding between each said belt half and said topsheet.